

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of scheduling training relating to an asset, including a user and an asset, comprising the steps of:
generating a training rule relating a training requirement to an asset;
storing the generated training rule in a computer;
identifying a user whose user certification will expire in a time frame identified by the generated training rule; and
scheduling training for the user, wherein the scheduling is done without human intervention by the computer.
2. A method of scheduling training relating to an asset as in claim 1, further comprising creating an invoice for the scheduled training, wherein the invoice is created without human intervention by the computer.
3. A method of scheduling training relating to an asset as in claim 2, further comprising sending the invoice in an electronic medium to the entity responsible for payment of the invoice, wherein the computer is used to send the invoice.
4. A method of scheduling training relating to an asset as in claim 1, wherein the scheduled training is an online training course.
5. A method of scheduling training relating to an asset as in claim 4, wherein the scheduled training includes an online safety manual.
6. A method of scheduling training relating to an asset as in claim 5, wherein the online safety manual includes an OSHA manual.
7. A method of scheduling training relating to an asset as in claim 1, further comprising notifying interested parties that training has been scheduled.

8. A method of scheduling training relating to an asset as in claim 7, wherein the interested party is a supervisor of the user.

9. A method of scheduling training relating to an asset as in claim 7, wherein the interested party is not the employer of the user.

10. A method of scheduling training relating to an asset as in claim 1, wherein the asset is a non-fixed movable asset.

11. A method of scheduling training relating to an asset as in claim 1, wherein the training is scheduled for completion before the expiration of the user certification.

12. A method for tracking and enforcing an asset authorization requirement, comprising the steps of:

generating authorization rules relating to the operation of an asset;

storing the generated authorization rules in a computer;

identifying the user of an asset at the time the user attempts to initiate use of the asset;

evaluating the authorization of a user attempting to use an asset;

impeding the unauthorized use of an asset;

tracking attributes of the user related to the generated authorization rules;

monitoring usage of the asset; and

scheduling training in accordance with the generated authorization rules in an automated manner.

13. A method for tracking and enforcing an asset authorization requirement as in claim 12, wherein an unauthorized user is automatically prohibited from using the asset.

14. A method for tracking and enforcing an asset authorization requirement as in claim 12, wherein a warning is generated by the computer for storing the generated authorization rules, wherein information identifying the unauthorized user, the unauthorized use, and the asset are included in the warning.

15. A method for tracking and enforcing an asset authorization requirement as in claim 12, further comprising creating an invoice in an automated fashion using the computer.

16. A method for tracking and enforcing an asset authorization requirement as in claim 15, further comprising sending the invoice electronically without human intervention from the computer to the payor.

17. A method for tracking and enforcing an asset authorization requirement as in claim 12, further comprising informing relevant parties of an upcoming expiration of a user authorization.

18. A method for tracking and enforcing an asset authorization requirement as in claim 12, further comprising providing training materials accessible in an online format.

19. A method for tracking and enforcing an asset authorization requirement as in claim 12, wherein the online training materials are safety manuals.

20. A system for tracking and enforcing authorization relating to an asset, comprising:

a user identification;

a user qualification, said user qualification relating to said user identification;

a predefined asset requirement, wherein said predefined asset requirement relates to the asset;

a computer for comparing said user qualification with said predefined asset requirement to determine if said user identification is authorized to use the asset;

a user training course, wherein said computer automatically schedules said user training course so that said user identification becomes authorized to use the asset upon completion of said training course; and

an invoice, said computer automatically generating said invoice for said user training course.

21. A system for tracking and enforcing user authorization relating to an asset as in claim 20, wherein said computer automatically schedules said user training course so that said user training course is completed before said user qualification expires.

22. A system for tracking and enforcing user authorization relating to an asset as in claim 20, wherein said invoice is automatically sent in an electronic format for payment by said computer.

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